GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1858
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2004
CHANGE OF COURSE OF RIVERS
Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rivers in North Eastern Region (NER) showing change of course as revealed by Remote Sensing and other data sources;

(b) the action plan contemplated for de-siltation, dredging and erosion control of rivers; and

(c) the extent of sandy deposits by rivers of NER and measures taken to prevent such deposits?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The Department of Space on the request of Brahmaputra Board has undertaken a comprehensive project on "River Channel Changes in North Eastern Region" based on multi date satellite data. Main stem to the Brahmaputra river and its major tributaries namely Beki Manas, Puthimari, Pagladia, Jia Bharelii, Jia Dhol and Buri Dihing are being studied for their dynamic aspects from the multi date satellite data.

(b) Erosion and Flood Control measures are taken by the State Governments as per their requirements.

Ministry of Water Resources has set up a Task Force on Flood Management/Erosion Control under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission to look into the problem of floods in Assam and neighbouring States, West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The Task Force has been asked submit its report by 31st December, 2004.

(c) As per information supplied by Department of Space, the stability of islands in the Brahmaputra river channel in Assam, using satellite data acquired in 1990, 1998, 2002 was studied. The study showed that there are 182 stable patches of river islands with vegetation covering an area of 16,685 hectare and 1,333 sandbars having an extent of 48,403 hectare of area.

Embankments have been constructed along the banks of the tributaries of Brahmaputra to prevent spilling of flood waters and deposition of sand and shingles on the agricultural land during floods.